



Corres. and Mail  
**BOX AF**

AF/2811

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Klaus Florian Schuegraf et al.  
Title: SELECTIVE SPACER TO PREVENT METAL OXIDE FORMATION DURING POLYCIDE REOXIDATION  
Docket No.: 303.278US1  
Filed: July 30, 1997  
Examiner: Ori Nadav, Ph.D.  
Serial No.: 08/902,809  
Due Date: May 2, 2000  
Group Art Unit: 2811

**Box AF**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

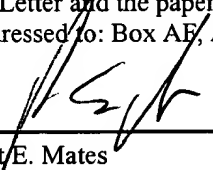
We are transmitting herewith the following attached items (as indicated with an "X"):

- X A return postcard.
- X A Response Under 1.116 (8 Pages).

Please consider this a **PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME** for sufficient number of months to enter these papers and please charge any additional required fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:** The undersigned hereby certifies that this Transmittal Letter and the paper, as described above, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Box AF, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this 25 day of April, 2000.

**SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG, WOESSNER & KLUTH, P.A.**  
P.O. Box 2938, Minneapolis, MN 55402 (612-373-6900)

By:   
Atty: Robert E. Mates  
Reg. No. 35,271

**Customer Number 21186**

(GENERAL)

RECEIVED  
MAY - 1 2000  
TC 2800 MAIL ROOM

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE - EXAMINING GROUP 2811

S/N 08/902,809

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Klaus Florian Schuegraf et al.

Examiner: Ori Nadav, Ph.D.

Serial No.: 08/902,809

Group Art Unit: 2811

Filed: July 30, 1997

Docket: 303,278US1

Title: SELECTIVE SPACER TO PREVENT METAL OXIDE FORMATION  
DURING POLYCIDIC REOXIDATION

#22/Response  
5-1-00  
V. Vennard

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Box AF  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

In response to the Final Office Action mailed February 2, 2000, the applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following remarks. Claims 23-31 and 36-44 are pending in the application, and are rejected. The pending claims 23-31 and 36-44 have not been amended.

Rejection of the Claims

The applicant recognizes that the rejection of the pending claims 23-31 and 36-44 has not changed substantially from the Office Action mailed October 14, 1999, and the applicant hereby refers to and incorporates the response to that Office Action, filed on December 28, 1999, as the response to the rejection of the claims in the Final Office Action. Additional remarks are added below in reply to the Examiner's Response to Arguments.

Patents Submitted Herewith

The applicant has attached two U.S. Patents herewith: U.S. Patent No. 5,526,309 to Hikawa et al. (Hikawa) and U.S. Patent No. 5,929,494 to Li. These patents are attached for illustrative and teaching purposes only and they need not be submitted in an Information Disclosure Statement under the exception described in MPEP §609 C(3).

RECEIVED  
MAY - 1 2000  
TC 2811 MAIL ROOM

Active Area 215

The applicant will first address the meaning of the term "active area" with reference to the above-listed patents. The Examiner stated, in Paragraph 17, that "it is well known in the art